



## INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics —

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## INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES, MARCH 1977

### MAIN FEATURES

- Industrial dispute statistics for March 1977 show that there were —
- 266 disputes involving stoppages of work of ten man-days or more.
- 76,900 workers involved.
- 169,000 working days lost.
- The main disputes during the month involved — meatworkers in Victoria and Queensland.
- In the March quarter 1977, 307,300 working days were lost, the lowest March quarter since 1972 when 303,000 working days were lost. 130,800 workers were involved in disputes in the March quarter the lowest figure for a March quarter since 1967, when 77,900 workers were involved.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

More detailed information about disputes appears in the quarterly bulletin *Industrial Disputes* (Reference No. 6.6).

2. The statistics of industrial disputes are compiled according to the Australian Standard Industrial Classification (ASIC), described in the Bureau publication *Australian Standard Industrial Classification (Preliminary Edition)*, 1969, Vol. 1.

3. The statistics refer only to disputes involving stoppages of work of ten man-days or more. Workers involved include workers directly and indirectly involved in disputes. Workers indirectly involved are those thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred, but who are not themselves parties to the dispute. Particulars of some stoppages (e.g. those involving a large number of establishments) may have been estimated and the statistics therefore should be regarded as giving a broad measure of the extent of stoppages of work (as defined).

4. Stoppages of work occurring at different times and at different establishments, but having a common cause may be regarded as one industrial dispute. However, an industrial dispute occurring in more than one State is counted as a separate dispute in each State. Disputes not settled at the end of a year are included as new disputes in the figures for the following year. The monthly statistics refer to all disputes operative in the month, including those disputes that commenced in previous months. In Table 1 details of the number of disputes and workers involved are shown separately for disputes beginning in the month and for all disputes. Average days lost per worker involved on a monthly basis are not comparable with the yearly averages, because workers involved are included in each month in which they are involved in disputes, while they are counted once only for each dispute in the annual figures. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components are due to rounding.

TABLE 1. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : AUSTRALIA

Period	Number of disputes		Workers involved ('000)		Working days lost		Estimated loss in wages (a) (\$'000)
	Beginning in month	Total (a)	Beginning in month	Total (a)	Number (a) ('000)	Average days per worker involved (b)	
1972	..	2,298	..	1,113.8	2,010.3	1.8	32,074.4
1973	..	2,538	..	803.0	2,634.7	3.3	45,206.5
1974	..	2,809	..	2,004.8	6,292.5	3.1	128,301.8
1975	..	2,432	..	1,398.0	3,509.9	2.5	95,760.7
1976	..	2,055	..	2,189.9	3,799.2	1.7	114,551.6
1976 —							
March	236	272	63.3	71.3	242.6	3.4	6,866.7
April	151	184	52.2	61.5	165.7	2.7	5,314.9
May	182	211	83.7	91.2	128.6	1.4	3,886.9
June (c)	164	187	398.5	400.9	573.0	1.4	16,763.2
July (c)	142	168	1,293.3	1,625.0	1,673.4	1.0	48,664.1
August	178	203	64.8	73.0	203.9	2.8	6,677.4
September	189	222	49.7	63.0	143.4	2.3	4,713.3
October	174	206	45.2	56.4	182.5	3.2	6,265.6
November	194	233	41.4	52.9	159.8	3.0	5,445.8
December	89	121	16.3	24.4	62.3	2.6	2,233.0
1977 —							
January (d)	119	119	17.2	17.2	28.4	1.7	919.0
February (d)	182	197	35.8	36.7	109.9	3.0	3,656.6
March (d)	237	266	73.0	76.9	169.0	2.2	5,723.9

(a) Refers to all disputes operative and workers involved in the period — see paragraph 4, above. (b) Monthly figures are not comparable with yearly figures — see paragraph 4, above. (c) Includes Medibank stoppages. (d) Subject to revision.



TABLE 2. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : INDUSTRIES (a), AUSTRALIA  
WORKING DAYS LOST ('000) (b)

Period	Manufacturing				Transport and storage; communication		Other industries (c)	A industries	
	Mining		Metal products, machinery and equipment	Other	Construction	Stevedoring services			Other
	Coal	Other							
1972	60.8	62.0	620.2	393.7	407.8	39.2	205.2	221.3	2,013
1973	87.5	155.3	800.8	661.4	439.3	49.5	93.2	347.6	2,637
1974	163.0	146.5	2,850.8	756.7	1,188.7	111.1	516.2	559.4	6,295
1975	343.3	90.0	1,279.2	464.1	497.0	46.2	146.7	643.5	3,509
1976	159.1	215.0	775.0	856.5	535.8	37.1	388.0	832.6	3,792
1976 -									
March	10.7	6.8	36.5	54.8	32.2	0.5	18.5	82.7	24.6
April	6.0	37.1	32.5	11.4	25.6	1.2	8.2	43.8	16.7
May	3.6	13.7	13.6	13.7	17.5	3.1	50.7	12.7	12.6
June (d)	10.1	17.3	128.6	88.5	87.7	5.5	102.2	133.1	57.0
July (d)	30.6	30.4	366.5	355.3	223.9	14.0	183.2	469.6	1,674
August	54.6	4.0	64.3	33.3	19.6	2.6	6.3	19.5	20.9
September	10.6	26.6	27.2	36.6	28.6	2.1	4.6	7.2	14.4
October	7.0	16.6	23.5	88.8	29.8	0.7	2.6	13.5	18.5
November	8.0	9.5	20.9	70.0	21.7	1.5	7.0	21.1	19.8
December	4.0	13.0	10.0	18.7	10.6	1.6	0.2	4.2	6.3
1977 -									
January (e)	2.5	1.0	5.1	6.1	6.8	0.6	2.5	3.7	3.4
February (e)	6.0	9.8	25.9	30.9	24.7	1.6	1.0	10.1	10.9
March (e)	17.3	8.6	19.0	72.2	23.0	3.7	11.7	13.6	10.0

(a) Australian Standard Industrial Classification - see paragraph 2, page 1. (b) Refers to all disputes operative in the period - see paragraph 4, page 1. (c) ASIC divisions A, D, F, I to L. (d) Includes Medibank stoppages. (e) Subject to revision.

TABLE 3. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES  
WORKING DAYS LOST ('000) (a)

Period	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust. (f)
1972	866.8	638.4	292.2	60.9	94.6	19.2	2,013
1973	1,098.1	780.5	320.2	130.6	117.3	140.1	2,637
1974	2,665.0	2,386.6	529.5	316.5	256.9	88.5	6,295
1975	1,477.8	1,221.7	473.3	127.6	100.7	40.6	3,509
1976	1,456.5	1,420.0	426.0	151.8	252.1	62.2	3,792
1976 -							
March	93.4	110.5	14.5	11.5	9.1	0.6	245
April	54.4	42.1	18.9	7.6	39.2	1.5	165
May	44.4	35.4	18.7	6.6	15.6	4.4	126
June (c)	91.4	443.9	20.2	4.6	11.5	0.5	570
July (c)	729.4	525.6	236.7	93.9	48.8	25.0	1,674
August	95.9	72.9	12.3	8.7	6.8	7.1	209
September	32.1	38.9	33.0	3.6	29.3	5.3	144
October	76.5	52.5	28.0	5.8	15.7	..	185
November	86.3	34.4	20.0	1.7	15.7	0.9	158
December	30.2	12.1	2.1	2.8	14.4	0.4	63
1977 -							
January (d)	14.7	2.8	5.2	0.4	2.0	0.9	24
February (d)	24.5	41.5	26.1	4.5	12.2	1.1	109
March (d)	48.8	72.4	32.6	2.7	10.6	1.5	160

(a) Refers to all disputes operative in the period - see paragraph 4, page 1. (b) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australia Capital Territory. (c) Includes Medibank stoppages. (d) Subject to revision.

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